

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #71A-19 Building Date: 1741, 1855, 1876

Building Name: Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church

Location: 16101 Annapolis Road, Bowie, Maryland

Private/Religious/Occupied/Excellent/Accessible

Description

The Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church is a gable-roof stone building with an early semi-octagonal sanctuary at one end and a later frame bell tower at the other. The building stands high on a hill on wooded grounds, adjoining an ancient graveyard. The nave of the church is built of undressed stone, four bays long, each bay filled with a Gothic-arched stained glass window with stone quoins and sill. Entrance is centered in the east gable end, through a later (1876) frame bell tower, three stories high, with bracketed cornice and pyramidal roof. Extending from the west gable end is a lower gable-roof sanctuary of dressed stone which constitutes the earliest part of the church; it is two bays long and has a semi-octagonal projecting bay (sacristy) at the west end. Both main block and sanctuary have molded cornice with scroll brackets and pendants. The gable roof of both sections is covered with patterned metal shingle, painted red. Mounted on the south wall of the nave is a wooden sundial. Adjoining the church on the north is a large and ancient cemetery with gravestones dating from as early as 1830. South of the church is a Second Empire Style brick rectory.

Significance

The Old Sacred Heart Catholic Church is the only pre-Revolutionary Roman Catholic Church in Prince George's County. The Mission of St. Francis Borgia was established on this land probably as early as the 1720's and the land was held in the name of an individual tax-paying priest. The stone chapel which survives as the present day sanctuary was constructed circa 1741. The first meeting of the clergy, for the purpose of forming a Plan of Organization for the Catholic Church in America, was held at this place in 1783; in 1789, another meeting was held to nominate John Carroll as the first American Bishop; his nomination was confirmed by the Vatican in April 1790. A novitiate was established in 1814, and the nave of the church was probably built in the 1820's. In May 1853 a fire totally destroyed the novitiate and seriously damaged the church building. The interior of the Church was destroyed, but the stone walls survived, and the church was rebuilt by 1855. In 1874, the structure was reinforced with iron rods, and in 1876, a frame bell tower was constructed on the east gable end of the church. Although it has been damaged, altered and renovated several times, Old Sacred Heart Church preserves an early eighteenth century chapel, the only pre-Revolutionary Roman Catholic Church in Prince George's County.

Acreage: 77.4436 acres

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church (Whitemarsh)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 16101 Annapolis Road (Maryland Route 450) ☐ not for publicationcity, town Bowie ☐ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's County

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Corporation of Roman Catholic Clergyman

street & number 5704 Roland Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21210

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Maryland Hall of Records General Court Deed
liber JG#3B

street & number 350 Rowe Boulevard folio 285, 288

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1981 ☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission, c/o County Planning, M-NCPPC

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. PG#71A-19

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church is a gable-roof stone building with an early semi-octagonal sanctuary at one end and a later frame bell tower at the other. The building stands high on a hill on wooded grounds, adjoining an ancient graveyard.

The nave of the church is built of undressed stone; it is four bays long, with each bay in the long north and south facades filled with a three-part Gothic-arch stained glass memorial window. These window openings are highlighted with flush dressed stone quoins and stone sills. Entrance is centered in the east gable end, through a later (1876) frame bell tower. This frame tower is three stories high, and covered with beige vinyl siding. It has a bracketed cornice beneath its steep pyramidal roof, which is covered with patterned metal shingle painted red, and topped by a cross. At second level on three sides, the tower is lighted by a circular window with an openwork five-point star decoration. At third level the tower has an open gothic-arch belfry, with a balustrade of turned balusters. Two side doors (on north and south) enter into the bell tower, which serves as a vestibule leading into the nave. Each leaf of these double doors has three raised rectangular panels, is surmounted by a panelled gothic-arch transom, and has a plain white aluminum surround.

Extending to the west from the gable end of the nave is a lower gable-roof sanctuary which constitutes the earliest part of the church. The sanctuary is constructed of carefully dressed stone; it is two bays long and has a semi-octagonal projecting bay at the west end. The eastmost bays on north and south are filled with round-arched stained-glass windows; the westmost bays, and the two windows of the projecting sacristy are filled with 6/6 double hung sash windows with three-pane round-arched transoms. All of these window openings are decorated with raised stone quoins, and the sills are continuous around the sanctuary, forming a decorative projecting string course. The sanctuary has a projecting two-course watertable.

The main block has a molded overhanging cornice, supported by highly decorative scroll brackets and pendants. The raking cornices at the gable ends are further decorated with a narrow dentil frieze. The sanctuary also has the same decorative bracketed cornice, and a dentilled frieze all the way around.

The nave and sanctuary are constructed of local ironbearing stone, painted beige. The gable roof of both sections is covered with patterned metal shingle, painted red. In 1853 the nave was gutted by fire, but its stone walls survived intact; they were reinforced by iron rods, and the interior was rebuilt by 1855. Shortly thereafter the church building was embellished by the decorative bracketed cornice, and the frame bell tower was constructed in 1876. The interior of the church was renovated in 1916 and 1972.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. P.G. #71A-19

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

Mounted on the south wall of the nave is a wooden sundial. It carries the date July 1827, but is reported to have been constructed to duplicate and replace the original sundial which was damaged in the 1853 fire.

Above the original east entrance of the nave (inside the bell tower) is a stone inscription: "Igni rui ast anno post uno magnificentior exsurexi et igno prostrato Gloria in Excelsis Deo 1855."

Adjoining the church on the north is a large and ancient cemetery with gravestones dating from as early as 1830. South of the church is a two-and-one-half story Second Empire Style Priests House (Rectory), constructed after the 1853 fire; it is three bays by two bays, built of brick, with mansard roof. A modern rear addition extends to the west.

Between the church and the rectory is a modern one-and-one-half story front-gabled Parish Hall; it is covered with vinyl siding, and has a concrete block addition to the west. Below and north of the church, fronting on Maryland Route 450, is a new brick church, completed and dedicated in 1969. The old stone church now serves as a chapel.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #71A-19

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1741, 1855, 1876

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church is the only pre-Revolutionary Roman Catholic Church in Prince George's County. A stone chapel, which survives as the present day sanctuary, was built on this site possibly as early as 1741. Even before this, in the 1720's, the site was in use as a mission by the Jesuits.

The Mission of St. Francis Borgia was established on this land probably as early as the 1720's. Because it was not at that time permitted for the Roman Catholic Church to hold property, the land on which it was established had to be held in the name of an individual tax-paying priest. This property, a large tract known as Carrollsburgh which straddled the Patuxent River in both Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties, belonged to James Carroll; when he died in 1728, he bequeathed this 2000-acre property to George Thorold of Charles County, or, in the case of Thorold's death, to Peter Atwood and Joseph Greateon.¹ All three men were members of the Jesuit clergy. In this way the land was legally kept for the use of Catholic worship, i.e., a private chapel on privately owned land, until 1793, when James Walton and John Ashton, Jesuit priests, put it on record in the General Court, in conformity to the "Act for securing certain estates and property for the support and uses of the Ministries of the Roman Catholic religion", that they owned Carrollsburgh and adjoining properties "in trust for the use, benefit and maintenance of the Ministries of the Roman Catholic Church".²

The stone chapel which survives as the present day sanctuary was constructed circa 1741, of local ironbearing sandstone which was plentiful in the area. The first meeting of the clergy, for the purpose of forming a Plan of Organization for the Catholic Church in America, was held at this place, in June and November 1783, led by John Carroll of Upper Marlborough. Carroll was appointed a year later, also at this site, "head of the Missions in the provinces of the New Republic of the United States of North America." In May 1789, another meeting was held at this place, to nominate Carroll as the first American Bishop; his nomination was confirmed by the Vatican in April 1790.³

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. P.G. #71A-19

Section 8 Page 2

In 1798, at the time of the first Federal Direct Tax, the resident priest at Carrollsburgh was John Ashton, and it was in his name that the income-producing farm lands were assessed. In that year, Ashton was assessed for over 2000 acres, and the property included, besides the chapel, a hip-roof dwelling, kitchen and cornhouse all in very good repair, as well as six negro houses, a barn, a stable, a meat house, a poultry house, nine tobacco houses, and a tenant house with kitchen. The extensive farmland, which supported the clergy, was cultivated by a labor force of 63 slaves.⁴

A novitiate was established in 1814, and the nave of the church was probably built in the 1820's; a letter written by the resident priest in 1832 describes the site by then known as "White Marsh", in some detail; "White Marsh, formerly called Carroll's Burgh, is situated on a hill about one hundred feet high; on the top is a fine Church of stone, 95 by 35 feet; an organ; Besides the church, there are frame buildings for twenty Novices and two Missioners, with two spare rooms for guests: kitchen, refectory, stable, an orchard, a garden, nothing else.... The soil is too sandy, fit only for tobacco, corn and vineyards; but of the last we have as yet none.... Half a mile from the hill, eastward, and over the plain, runs the Patuxent, from north to south, with a good wooden bridge, called Priests' Bridge; it is on the road to Baltimore and Annapolis.... We have two farms, and one hundred and four slaves, men, women and children." The priests supervised extensive farming of the lands, which brought an annual income of between \$2000 and \$5000 for the maintenance of the church.⁵

In May 1853 a fire totally destroyed the novitiate and seriously damaged the church building. The interior of the Church, including furniture, records and vestments, was totally destroyed, but the stone walls survived, and the church was rebuilt by 1855.⁶ An inscription over the old east entrance records this 1855 restoration. Later, in 1874, when the long walls of the nave began to bow, the structure was reinforced with iron rods. At approximately this time, the brick Priests' House was built immediately south of the church.

In 1876, a frame bell tower was constructed on the east gable end of the church, and served also as an entry tower. A 1000-pound bell, manufactured by McShane Bell Foundry in Baltimore, was installed in the tower in 1889, commemorating the centennial of the selection at this site of John Carroll as Bishop.⁷

The interior of the White Marsh Church, now known as Sacred Heart, has undergone two major renovations, in 1916 and in 1972, and the bell tower was reinforced early in this century. After the development of the nearby Belair subdivision, the old church could not accommodate the expanding population, so plans were made to erect a new church building. The new Sacred Heart Church was constructed at the foot of Whitemarsh hill, and dedicated in 1969. The bell was removed from the tower of the old stone chapel, and installed, with two other bells, in the new church.⁸

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. P.G. #71A-19

Section 8 Page 3

The Old Sacred Heart Church is now well-maintained, and in use by the Parish; it stands on a tranquil wooded hilltop between the Priests' House and the old cemetery. Although it has been damaged, altered and renovated several times, it incorporates and preserves the main structure of the early eighteenth chapel, the only pre-Revolutionary Roman Catholic Church in Prince George's County.

Notes

- 1 Anne Arundel County Will #19:797
- 2 General Court Deed JG #3B:285, 288
- 3 "A Monograph on the Foundation and the Development of the old Sacred Hear church - White Marsh, Bowie, Maryland, 1741-1975".
- 4 Federal Direct Tax for Prince George's County, 1798, Horspen and Patuxent Hundreds, M865, Md. Hall of Records.
- 5 Letter from Father Fidelis Grivel to Father Nicholas Sewall, 30 May 1832; quoted in "Monograph", cf note #3.
- 6 Planters' Advocate, published in Upper Marlborough, 18 May 1853.
- 7 "Monograph", cf Note #3.
- 8 Ibid.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #71A-19

cf. notes, Item #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 77.4436

Tax map #38, parcel 55

Quadrangle name BowieQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

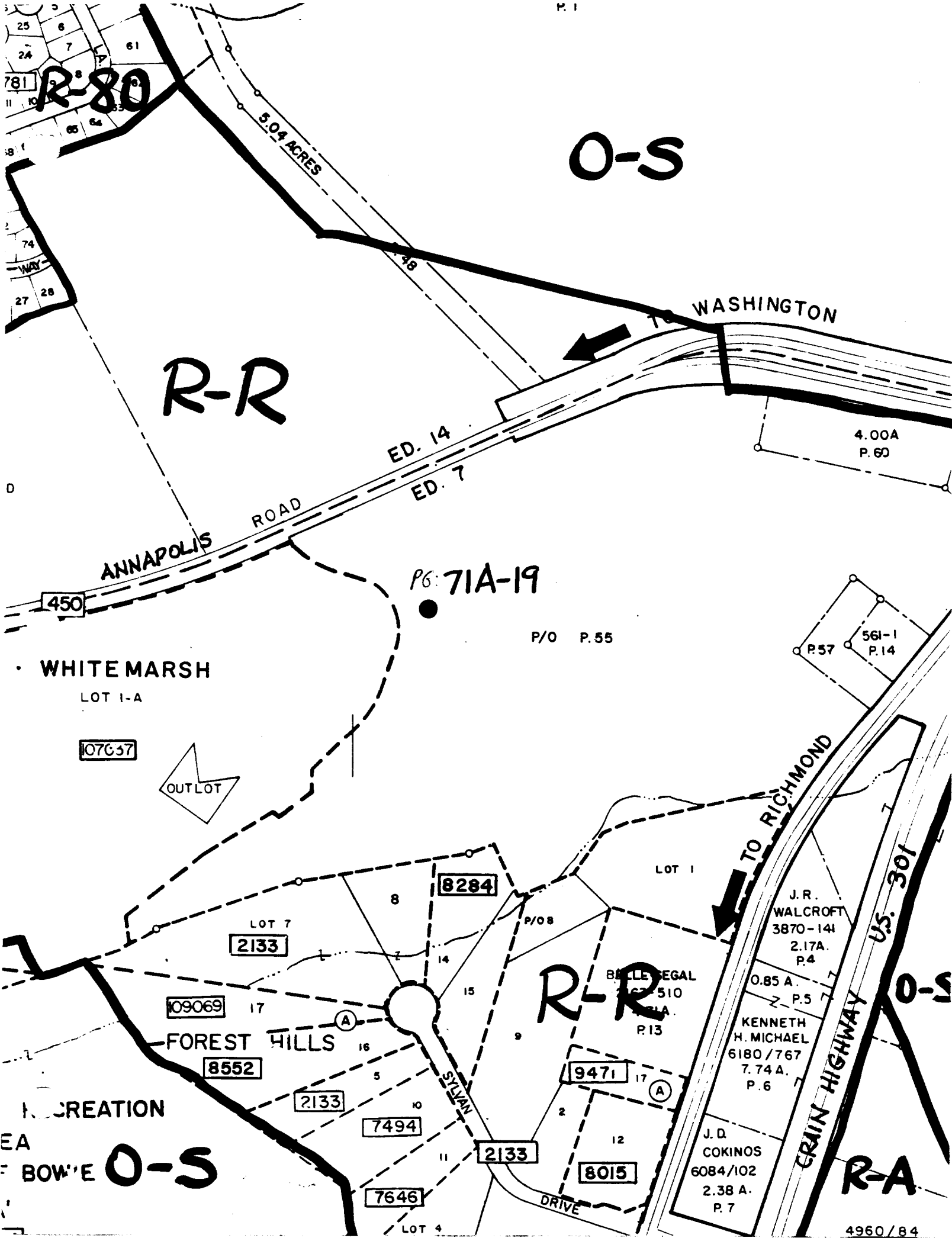
11. Form Prepared By

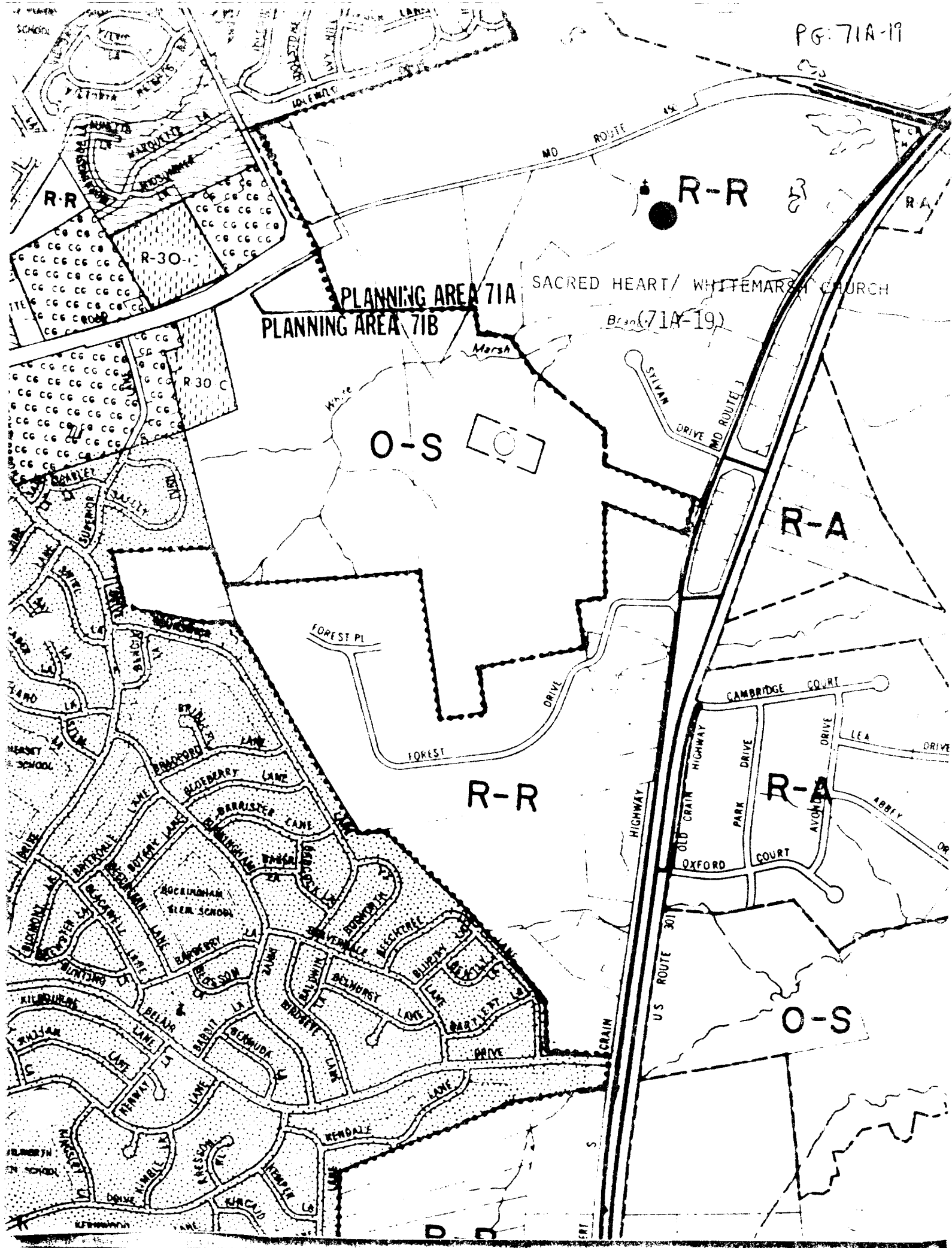
name/title	Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian		
organization	Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission	date	October, 1987
street & number	c/o County Planning, M-NCPPC	telephone	952-3521
city or town	Upper Marlboro	state	Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438





Bowie

This is a detailed topographic map of the Bowie, Maryland area. The map shows the Patuxent River flowing through the region, with the Prince Georges County and Anne Arundel County boundaries indicated. Key landmarks include Patuxent River Watershed Park, Pigeon House Corner, and the Governor Bridge. The map also features contour lines, roads, and various other geographical features. A large handwritten label 'PG #71A-19' is prominently displayed in the center of the map.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # #71A-19 Date c.1741, 1856, 1870's
Building Name Sacred Heart Church at Whitemarsh
Location Defense Highway, (Rte.450), Bowie, Md.
Open to Public x yes no

Sacred Heart Church at Whitemarsh is a gable roofed, stone structure with a frame bell tower on the east. The nave is rectangular, with four gothic windows on each side, The sanctuary is one story lower, with two round-arched windows on each side; the window sills are connected as a string course. The small semi-hexagonal sacristy at the west end carries out the same style as the sanctuary; curved brackets support the boxed cornice. A frame bell tower forms the entrance at the east end of the nave. A cemetery adjoins the church on the north.

The 1728 will of James Carroll devised 2000 acres of Carrollsburg (later known as Whitemarsh) to George Thorold, a Jesuit priest. Because it was not permitted for the Roman Catholic Church to hold property in its own name, the land was passed from one priest to another until 1793, when James Walton put it on record that he held this land for the use, benefit and maintenance of the ministers of the Roman Catholic Church.

The church was established at Whitemarsh circa 1741, and the sanctuary and sacristy survive from that period. The nave was added by the 1820's. A novitiate was established just south of the church building in 1814, but was totally destroyed by fire in May 1853. The church also was damaged by this fire, but the stone walls survived, and the church was rebuilt by 1856. The weakened walls were strengthened by the addition of iron rods, and by the 1870's the frame bell tower was built at the front (east) of the church building.

The interior has undergone several different restorations in this century. A new church was built below on Rte.#450 in 1969; the historic church building on the hill above it now serves as a chapel.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church

AND/OR COMMON
Sacred Heart of Whitemarsh**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

16101 Annapolis Road (Maryland Route 450)

CITY, TOWN

Bowie

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

P.G.

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YLS UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #: 262-0704

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Maryland Hall of Records

STREET & NUMBER

College Street

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Md.

Liber #: JG#3B General Court
Folio #: 285 Deed**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Sites, Prince George's County

DATE

1969-1974

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Calvert Mansion, 4811 Riverdale Road

CITY, TOWN

Riverdale

Md. 20840 STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Sacred Heart Church at Witemarsh is an A roofed, stone structure with a frame bell tower on the east. The nave is rectangular, with four gothic headed windows on each side. The sanctuary is one story lower, with two round-arched windows on each side; the window sills are connected as a string course. The small semi-hexagonal sacristy at the west end carries out the same style as the sanctuary; carved brackets support the boxed cornice.

A frame bell tower forms the entrance at the east end of the nave. An ancient cemetery adjoins the church on the north.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PG: 71A-19

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		x local history	

SPECIFIC DATES c.1741, 1856, 1870's BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The 1728 will of James Carroll devised 2000 acres of Carrollsburg to George Thorold, a Jesuit priest. Because it was not at that time permitted for the Roman Catholic Church to hold property in its own name, the land, which came to be known as "Whitemarsh", was passed from one priest to another until 1793, when James Walton put it on record that he held this land for the use benefit and maintenance of the ministers of the Roman Catholic Church.

The church was established at Whitemarsh circa 1741, and the sanctuary and sacristy survive from that period. The first meeting of the clergy was held at Whitemarsh in June 1783 for the purpose of planning a form of ecclesiastical government. In 1791 at the meeting at Whitemarsh, John Carroll of Upper Marlboro was nominated as Bishop. A novitiate was established at Whitemarsh in 1814, but was totally destroyed by fire in May 1853. The church also was damaged by this fire, but the stone walls survived, and the church was rebuilt by 1856. The weakened walls were strengthened by the addition of iron rods, and by the 1870's the frame bell tower was built at the front (east) of the church building.

The interior has undergone several different restorations in this century. A new church was built below on Rte. #450 in 1969; the historic church building on the hill above it now serves as a chapel.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wills: A.A. County, Liber 19, folio 797

General Court Deeds: Liber JG#3B, folio 285

Planters Advocate, 18 May 1853; Sacred Heart Chapel, 1975.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION _____

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE _____

COUNTY _____

STATE _____

COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan G. Pearl

ORGANIZATION

P.G. Historical and Cultural Trust

DATE

December 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Calvert Mansion, 4811 Riverdale Road

TELEPHONE

779-2011

CITY OR TOWN

Riverdale,

STATE

Md. 20840

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

PG: 1701344508

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM

for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME

COMMON: Sacred Heart Chapel

AND/OR HISTORIC: White Marsh Roman Catholic Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Defense Highway (Rte. 450)

CITY OR TOWN: Bowie

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Prince George's

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work In progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
--	--	---	---	-----------------------------------

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Corporation of Roman Catholic Clergyman of Md.

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro STATE: Maryland

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: M-NCPPC

STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The church is an A-roofed, stone building with a frame tower on the facade. The facade and sanctuary are dressed ashlar blocks, while the side walls are rough cut with dressed quoining blocks, voussoirs, and window sills. The nave is rectangular, with gothic headed windows flanking the tower and four gothic headed windows on either sidewall. The sanctuary is a lower, two story section, with two semi-circular headed windows on either side wall; these windows have moulded key-stone arches, splayed voussiors, and impost blocks in an English Renaissance manner. The window sills are joined by a string course and there is a high foundation with a water table. The sacristy is semi-hexagonal and carried out in the same style as the sanctuary.

The present entablature is Victorian, with carved brackets supporting the deep boxed cornice. The bed moulding is a dentil string and the crown moulding an ogee.

The interior has been substantially remodelled. It has a balcony across the back and wainscotting with flat panels.

The rectory is Victorian in the Second Empire mode. It is brick, with a three bay facade with a central entrance and flanking windows. The mansard roof, covered with slate tiles, has crested segmentally-headed dormer windows on each elevation. The bracketed cornice has elaborate bed and crown mouldings. The two story rear ell has a large external chimney base that cantilevers inward so that the stack rises internally. The

lower story of the ell is stuccoed and the upper story frame. There is a cemetery next to the church.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The chapel was established in 1741; the sanctuary and sacristy are the surviving parts of this early building. The original nave addition was destroyed in 1855 and restored in 1856. In 1876, the frame tower was added. Rev. Michael Hogan, S.J., remodelled the building in 1916 and in 1972 restoration was begun.

The parish was the first Roman Catholic parish in the English colonies. James Carroll bequeathed the land for the church to the Jesuits in 1783 a meeting of Catholic clergy met here to formulate a plan for church governance in the newly independent United States.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

27 Sept 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature



NAME SACRED HEART R.C. CH. (WHITE MARSH)

PG: 71A-19

LOCATION Rt 450 , BOWIE, Md.

FACADE NW

PHOTO TAKEN 9/27/74 M DWYER



NAME SACRED HEART R.C. CH. (WHITE
MARSH)

LOCATION Rt. 450, BOWIE, Md. PG: 71A-19

EACADE N

PHOTO TAKEN^N 9/27/74 M DWYER



PHOTO TAKEN NAME SACRED HEART R.C. CH. — RECTORY

MADE LOCATION Rt. 450, BOWIE, Md.

PG: 71A-19

NO. 1000 FACADE NE

PHOTO TAKEN 9/27/74 M DWYER



P.G. #71A-19

Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church
Prince George's County, Maryland

Susan G. Pearl

April 1987

Northeast 3/4 elevation

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #71A-19

Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church
Prince George's County, Maryland

Susan G. Pearl

April 1987

North elevation

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



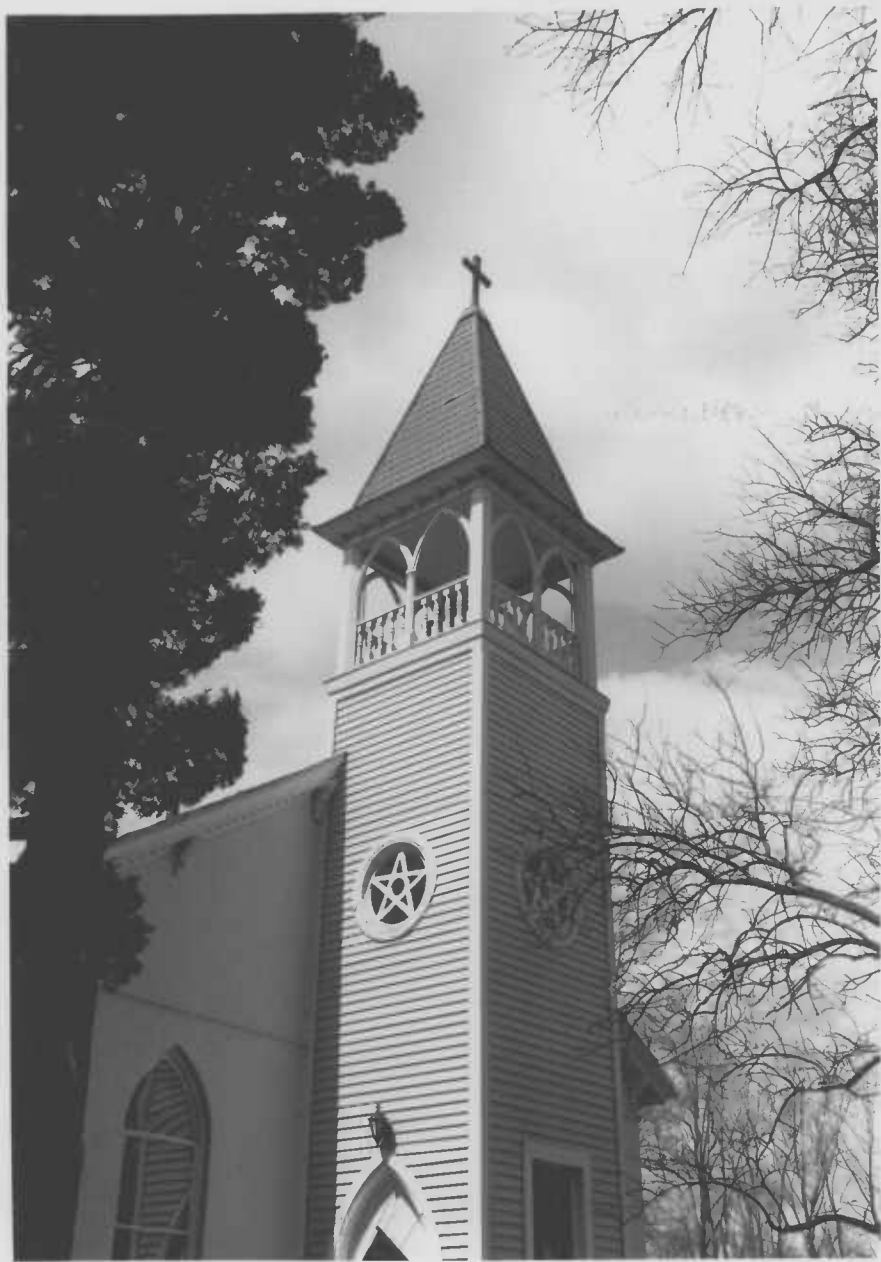
P.G. #71A-19

Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
April 1987
Sanctuary, north elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #71A-19

Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
April 1987
South elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #71A-19

Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church
Prince George's County, Maryland

Susan G. Pearl

April 1987

Bell tower from southeast

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #71A-19

Old Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
April 1987
South window of nave, detail
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD